Monday, *the* $\frac{31st\ July\ 1944}{16th\ Karkadagam\ 1119}$

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at half past Eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble the President (Sir George Boag, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.) in the Chair.

Messrs. B. M. Peter, K. M. Ibrahim, Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan, C. K. Nayar, C. J. Luiz, H. J. Walmesley and K. R. Ramakrishnan were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

HILL PADDY SCHEME—PARTICULARS OF

126. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state what is the actual average yield per acre in the Hill Paddy cultivation scheme obtained in the year 1118?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* A net yield of 75,000 paras of paddy was obtained from an area of 5,000 acres. The average yield was only 15 paras per acre due to adverse weather conditions.

GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN—ENCOURAGEMENT TO PRIVATE PARTIES

127. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to inform.—

(*a*) the extent of acreage brought under cultivation after the Grow More Food Campaign was started inside the State;

(*b*) what encouragements have been given and granted for the purpose to private parties who took to the "Grow More Food Scheme";

(*c*) what are the various kinds of food grown under the Grow More Food Campaign during the last two years and the extra quantities of food stuffs produced as a result of the campaign?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) 21,000 acres. (11,000 acres of poramboke lands under the Food Production Scheme and 10,000 acres, under the Hill Paddy Scheme).

(*b*) Food Production loans at the rate of Rs. 15 per acre were granted to the ryots to whom the lands were leased out, in deserving cases.

Loans of seeds such as paddy, chama, ragi and pulses were given to the cultivators as also tapioca sets from the Agricultural Department on kychit system, on condition that the loans so issued should be repaid at the time of harvest of the crop.

A subsidy of 10 per cent which was subsequently enhanced to 25 per cent to the purchasers of manures from the Government manure depots, is also granted.

Manure was also sold to Agriculturists on credit.

(*c*) Paddy, Tapioca, Millets like Chama and Ragi, pulses like Red Gram and Horse Gram, etc., vegetables and plantains; exact statistics are not available.

AVERAGE YIELD—RAISING OF

128. Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):*

(*a*) Will Government be pleased to state what actual concrete attempts have been made to find whether it is practical to raise the average yield per acre in Cochin from 1,250 lbs. to 2,400 lbs. or just over a ton of paddy per acre;

(*b*) whether any experiment has been carried out with proper and better plant, drainage and irrigation anywhere in the State by the Department of Agriculture to see whether the land experimented upon could yield more than 1,250 lbs. of paddy per acre;

(*c*) if such experiments have been made will Government be pleased to state the locality where such experiments have been made and the results?

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